United Nations S/2013/200

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 March 2013

Original: English

Letter dated 25 March 2013 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to my special report to the Security Council on the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region dated 27 February 2013 (S/2013/119), in which I responded to the request of the Council, in its resolution 2076 (2012), for a report on options, and their implications, for the possible redeployment of contingents and additional force multipliers, observation capabilities and troops to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) within the current authorized ceiling.

In my report, I outlined a proposal for the deployment of a dedicated intervention brigade, to be established within MONUSCO for an initial period of one year, together with additional capabilities for advanced information collation, analysis and dissemination to enhance situational awareness and enable timely decision-making, as also outlined in my letter to the Security Council dated 27 December 2012 (S/2013/43).

I wish to inform the Security Council that a preliminary assessment of the financial implications of the proposals outlined in my special report, should the Council decide to authorize them, shows that additional costs for MONUSCO would total approximately $140 million over a full year. The costs associated with the deployment of the intervention brigade would include the deployment of 2,314 new troops, within the ceiling currently authorized by the Council. The brigade would be rapidly deployed to begin operations. Temporary facilities and additional air capabilities of MONUSCO would ensure that the brigade maintains a tactical posture. The added costs also include the deployment of an unmanned aerial system and of other capability enhancements outlined in my report.

Should the Security Council decide to approve the above, a financing proposal would be presented to the General Assembly for its consideration. Such a proposal would be prepared with regard to an appropriate funding period, a projected deployment timeline for personnel and equipment, and a detailed assessment of operating conditions.

I would be grateful if you could bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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